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LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 **(canceled)**

19. **(currently amended)**   A method, implemented in a computer system, of shifting a multi-word value comprising:

    performing a first shift operation on a first portion of the multi-word value to produce one or more overflow bits;

    performing a second shift operation on a second portion of the multi-word value, where the second shift operation comprises:

       producing a shift result; and

       concatenating the shift result and the overflow bits~~.~~; and

          where the second shift operation is a multi-precision shift instruction and where the first shift instruction and second shift instruction are performed sequentially.

20.(**previously presented)**   The method of claim 19, where the second shift operation is a multi-precision shift instruction, and where the second shift operation produces a result, the method further comprising:

    fetching and decoding the multi-precision shift instruction; and

    outputting the result.

21. **(previously presented)**   The method of claim 20, where the multi-precision shift instruction is a shift left instruction.

22. **(previously presented)**   The method of claim 20, where the multi-precision shift instruction is a shift right instruction.

23. **(previously presented)**   The method of claim 20, where the multi-precision shift instruction